

Letter from Helen Keller to Alexander Graham Bell, June 2, 1900

138 Brattle Street, Cambridge, June 2, 1900. My dear Dr. Bell;

I have just received a letter from your friend, Mr. Thorndike, in which he says you are going abroad—to the Exposition, I suppose, and I send my very best wishes for a safe voyage and a lovely trip. I am so glad you can have a change; for I know you need it greatly after your winter's hard work. How I wish I could go with you, and that we could renew the beautiful times we had together at the World's Fair!

My teacher and I have also been planning how to spend our summer. We have decided to take the little cottage we had last summer, when my mother was with us. A very nice young lady is going with us, to be a sort of companion to me, and help me do some studying for next year. You see, I am still thinking of going to Radcliffe, and I must do a good deal of preparatory reading before I can take the regular college course. If we can do all that we intend to, We shall have a most delightful summer. But this plan will be somewhat more expensive than boarding, and we are obliged to ask our friends to help us out. Perhaps you will help make it possible for us to carry out our plan successfully, as you were so kind as to do last summer. If so, you will make very happy indeed one who loves you; but if you think I am asking too much, please do not pay the slightest attention to this. I only want my dear teacher to have a perfectly restful vacation, and nothing can be better for that purpose than a little cottage, where we can “camp out” and be as free as the breezes which play on the lake only a few feet away.

Mr. Thorndike asked me when he could come to Cambridge, and I have just written to him, saying we shall be pleased to see him Monday afternoon. I do not think I have met him

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before, and I am wondering what he can want with me. He speaks of coming “to see me about doing some literary work,” and I am quite mystified.

I am sorry to send you such a poor letter; but I am going away for Sunday, and I must start in a few minutes.

With kindest love to Mrs. Bell, and Elsie and Daisy, and with a sweet message from my teacher, I am,

Affectionately your friend, Helen Keller.